



VERIFICATION OF TRANSLATION

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I, Akira HIRAKAWA, a citizen of Japan and the translator of the document attached, whose address is c/o SHUWA CHIZAI INC., Acropolis 21 Building, 6th Floor, 4-10, Higashi Nihonbashi 3-chome, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, state that the following is a true translation of the Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-241157 filed on August 9, 2000 to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed at Tokyo, Japan

This 13th day of December, 2004

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This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office.

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[Title of the Invention] CAR SALE INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM,
CAR DEALING SYSTEM AND METHOD

[Scope of Claims]

5 [Claim 1]

A car sale information providing system comprising:

car information storage means for storing car information
containing a name, a type, a year model etc. of a car and car inspection
information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned
10 in a corresponding relationship;

car information input means for inputting the car information
to be stored in said car information storage means;

search means for outputting an input screen to search the car
information stored in said car information storage means, and for
15 searching based on conditions inputted; and

car information output means for outputting display
information, including a purchase indication interface for
transmitting car purchase information containing the searched car
information and the car inspection information corresponding
20 thereto.

[Claim 2]

A car sale information providing system according to claim
1, further comprising:

inspection indication output means for outputting inspection
25 indicative information for prompting an inspection of an uninspected
car, corresponding to the input of said car information input means,

wherein said car information input means has the car

information of the uninspected car stored in said car information storage means in a state of being unsearchable by said search means, and

5 said car information storage means changes the car information to a searchable state in accordance with an input of the car inspection information created by the inspection based on the inspection indicative information.

[Claim 3]

A car sale information providing method comprising:

10 a step of storing car information containing a name, a type, a year model etc. of a car and car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned in a corresponding relationship;

15 a step of inputting the car information to be stored in said car information storage means;

a step of outputting an input screen for searching the car information stored in said car information storage means and searching based on conditions inputted;

20 a step of displaying the searched car information and the car inspection information corresponding thereto; and

a step of transmitting information for purchasing the car concerned.

[Claim 4]

25 A car sale information providing method according to claim 3, further comprising:

a step of outputting inspection indicative information for prompting an inspection of an uninspected car, corresponding to

the input of the car information input means;

a step of having the car information of an uninspected car stored in said car information storage means in a state of being unsearchable by said search means; and

5 a step of changing the car information to a searchable state in accordance with an input of the car inspection information created by the inspection based on the inspection indicative information.

[Claim 5]

A car sale information providing method comprising:

10 displaying of car information containing at least a name, a type, a year model etc. of a car and inspection information of the car on a display screen on a terminal device connected to a host device.

[Claim 6]

15 A car dealing system comprising:

car information storage means for storing car information containing a name, a type, a year model etc. of a car;

exhibit information storage means for storing plural categories of exhibit information containing at least animated image data or sound data corresponding to the car information;

search means for searching the car information;

display means for displaying a header of each item of car information as a result of the search in a selectable manner; and

display means for outputting, when the header is selected, car screen information including an output indication interface giving an indication of outputting the car information and an indication of outputting the exhibit information corresponding to

the car information.

[Claim 7]

A car dealing system according to claim 6, wherein said car information storage means is stored with the car information and
5 car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned in a corresponding relationship, and

said display means further displays the car inspection information corresponding to the car information.

[Claim 8]

10 A car dealing system according to claim 6 or 7, wherein said display means further includes a purchase indication interface for transmitting information for purchasing the car concerned.

[Claim 9]

A car sale information providing method comprising:
15 a step of searching car information containing a name, a type, a year model etc.. of a car;

a step of displaying a header of each item of the car information obtained as a result of the search in a selectable manner;

a step of outputting, when the header is selected, the car
20 information;

a step of searching plural categories of exhibit information containing at least animated image data or sound data, which are stored corresponding to the car information; and

a step of outputting the exhibit information.

25 [Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Technical Field of the Invention]

The present invention relates to an online used-car dealing technology, and more particularly to an online system effective in an inter-dealer transaction.

[0002]

5 [Prior Art]

A used-car dealer, when receiving an inquiry about a used car from a general customer and if a dealer's stock does not have the car meeting requirements of the customer, searches the car desired by the customer with reference to a used-car database structured
10 through a network in linkage with the used-car dealers.

[0003]

This type of used-car dealing on the network involves a difficulty for a prospective buyer (dealer) to grasp an actual quality of the used car. Therefore, the prospective buyer is unable to
15 determine the purchase only from a photo obtained from the database and assessment information given by a seller.

[0004]

Further, in the case of outputting car information by use of character information and static image data, an actual condition
20 of the car is hard to grasp. Especially, in order to truly display a state of a coating surface in the form of a static image, a high-level photographing technology such as enhancing an image resolution, is required. It is in fact difficult in terms of a communication load and a photographing cost to use the image described above.
25 Therefore, a used-car dealing on the network is operated, using an image obtained by photographing the whole of the used car from a forward oblique angle. What can be grasped from this kind of image

is just that a name of car, a name of model and a color expressed by character information are correct or that the car has no damage by collision.

[0005]

5 Accordingly, heretofore, the prospective buyer searches the used cars from the database and, after finding out the desired car, asks an inspector to check the car by telephone or FAX etc.. Then, a procedure taken is that dealing conditions such as a sales price are finally determined based on a result of the inspection, and
10 a negotiation with the general customer is started.

[0006]

Therefore, it takes at least 2 to 3 days till the purchase is determined since the car was searched and found out.

[0007]

15 [Problems to be solved by the Invention]

The present invention was made in view of the conventional technical problems as discussed above. The present invention is to provide an information processing technology for speeding up a process that a prospective buyer of a used car determines an
20 intention of purchasing it.

[0008]

[Means for solving the Problems]

To solve the above problems, the following means are adopted.

[0009]

25 Namely, the present invention is a car sale information providing system comprising:

car information storage means (13, 14) stored with car

information containing a name, a type, a year model etc.. of a car and car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned in a corresponding relationship;

car information input means (27, 28) for inputting the car
5 information and having the car information stored in the car information storage means (13, 14);

search means (12) for outputting an input screen to search the car information stored in the car information storage means (13, 14), and for performing search based on conditions inputted;
10 and

car information output means (26), for outputting display information, including a purchase indication interface (44) for transmitting car purchase information containing the searched car information and the car inspection information corresponding
15 thereto.

[0010]

The car sale information providing system may further comprise inspection indication output means (2b, 26) for outputting inspection indicative information for prompting an inspection of an uninspected
20 car, corresponding to the input of the car information input means (27, 28),

wherein the car information input means (27, 28) has the car information of the uninspected car stored in the car information storage means (13, 14) in a state of being un-searchable by the
25 search means; and

the car information storage means (13, 14) changes the car information to a searchable state in accordance with an input of

the car inspection information created by the inspection based on the inspection indicative information.

[0011]

Further, the present invention is a car sale information
5 providing method which may comprise displaying car information containing at least a name, a type, a year model of a car and inspection information of the car on a display screen on a terminal device connected to a host device.

[0012]

10 Still further, the present invention is a car dealing system comprising:

car information storage means (13, 14, 52) for storing car information containing a name, a type, a year model of a car;

exhibit information storage means (13, 14, 53) for storing
15 plural categories of exhibit information containing at least animated image data or sound data and the car information in a corresponding relationship;

search means (12) for searching the car information;

means for displaying a header of car information obtained as
20 a result of the search in a selectable manner; and

display means (16) for outputting, when the header is selected, car screen information including an output indication interface (55) for giving an indication of outputting the car information and an indication of outputting exhibit information corresponding to
25 the car information outputted.

[0013]

In this car dealing system, the car information storage means

(13, 14, 52) may be stored with the car information and car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned in a corresponding relationship,

and the display means (16) may further display the car inspection information corresponding to the car information.

[0014]

In this car dealing system, the display means (16) may further include a purchase indication interface (44) for transmitting a piece of information for purchasing the car concerned.

[0015]

[Embodiments of the Invention]

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will hereinafter be described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

<<First Embodiment>>

A first embodiment of the present invention will be explained referring to FIGS. 1 through 15.

[0016]

FIG. 1 is a diagram showing a system architecture of a car sale information providing system in the first embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 2 is a diagram showing a hardware architecture of a server 1 shown in FIG. 1. FIG. 3 is a diagram showing a hardware architecture of a terminal device such as a member terminal 2 illustrated in FIG. 1. FIG. 4 through 7 show respectively an example of a screen displayed in the member terminal 2. FIGS. 8 through 13 are flowcharts each showing processes of a server program executed by a CPU 12 of the server 1. FIGS. 14 and 15 are flowcharts

each showing processes of a program executed in the terminal device such as the member terminal 2.

<System Architecture>

FIG. 1 shows the system architecture of the car sale information providing system. This system is configured of the server 1 installed in a management company for managing the information, the member terminals 2 installed in sales companies that sell the cars or in homes of users who purchase the cars, an inspector terminal 2a installed in an office of an inspector, and a land transportation company terminal 2b installed in a land transportation company.

[0017]

The server 1 includes a used-car database for recording pieces of information such as a name, a type, a year model etc. of the car, an inspection certificate database for recording car inspection information defined as a result of inspecting the car, a member database for recording members accessing the server 1 such as the car sales company, the user of the car etc., and an inspector database for recording the inspectors who inspect the car.

[0018]

Among those databases, the used-car database is configured of three databases, namely, wait-for-registration, inspection and settlement databases.

[0019]

The used car (wait-for-registration) database (hereinafter referred to as the wait-for-registration database) is registered with uninspected cars with no car inspection information.

[0020]

The used car (inspection) database (hereinafter referred to as the inspection database), to which the car inspection information is inputted, is registered with cars to be purchased by the members.

[0021]

5 The used car (wait-for-settlement) database (hereinafter referred to as the wait-for-settlement database) is, to which the members have applied for purchasing the cars, registered with these cars waiting for being settled.

[0022]

10 In the member terminal 2, a registration program for registering the cars to be sold and a search program for searching the cars to be purchased, are executed. With execution of the programs, the member terminal 2 accesses the server 1, thereby providing a function of registering and searching the car information,
15 and a function of applying for purchasing.

[0023]

The inspector terminal 2a, in response to a command from the server 1, notifies the inspector of an inspecting indication. Further, the inspector terminal 2a makes the inspector input the
20 car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car, and transmits this car inspection information to the server 1.

[0024]

The server 1 transmits information indicative of a land
25 transportation of the car to be sold to the land transportation company terminal 2b. The member terminal 2, the inspector terminal 2a and the land transportation company terminal 2b are hereinafter

generically called a terminal device.

<Hardware>

FIG. 2 shows the hardware architecture of the server 1. The server 1 includes a CPU 12 for executing a server program , a memory
5 13 for storing the server program executed by the CPU 12 and data processed by the CPU 12, a hard disk 14 for recording the server program and the data, a communication interface 15 for communicating with the terminal device such the member terminal 2 etc., a CRT
16 for displaying a result of processing of the CPU to the operator,
10 a keyboard 17 for the operator to input the data, and a pointing device 18 for the operator to manipulate menus or icons on the CRT 16.

[0025]

The CPU 12 executes the server program stored in the memory
15 13, thereby providing a function as the server 1.

[0026]

The memory 13 stores the server program executed by the CPU 12 and the data processed by the CPU 12.

[0027]

20 The hard disk 14 is recorded with the server program executed by the CPU 12. Further, the wait-for-registration database, the search database, the wait-for-settlement database, the member database and the inspector database, are structured on the hard disk 14.

25 [0028]

The communication interface 15 accesses an unillustrated network in response to a command given from the CPU 12, and

communicates with the member terminal 2, the inspector terminal 2a and the land transportation company terminal 2b.

[0029]

The CRT 16 displays the data inputted by the operator and a
5 result of the processed data.

[0030]

The keyboard 17 is used for the operator to input the character information. The pointing device 18 (for example, a mouse, a trackball, an electrostatic pointing device, an optical pointing
10 device and a touch panel) is used for the operator to manipulate the menus and icons displayed on the CRT 16.

[0031]

FIG. 3 shows the hardware architecture of the terminal device. The terminal device includes a CPU 22, a memory 23, a hard disk
15 24, a communication interface 25, an LCD 26, a keyboard 27, a pointing device 28 and a scanner 29.

[0032]

The architecture of the terminal device is substantially the same as the server 1, however, a different point from the server
20 1 is that the terminal device includes the LCD 26 in place of the CRT 16 and the scanner 29 for generating pieces of image data of a car photo and of an inspection certificate.

<Operating Procedure>

[Registration of Car Information]

25 FIG. 4 shows a registration screen for registering information relation to the used-car (which will hereinafter be called car information). This screen is displayed on the LCD 26 when the member

operates the member terminal 2 to register the car to be sold in the server 1.

[0033]

The screen has two columns of information input boxes laid out on the right and left sides. The left-sided input boxes on the screen are topped by a member number 2, followed by a maker of a car to be registered, a type of the car, a name of the car, a grade, a shape, an application, an external coating color, a color No. (of coating), an interior coating color, a type of fuel, a gearshift mode, air-conditioned or non-air-conditioned, a type of an air conditioner, other equipment, a possible car-delivery date and a sales price.

[0034]

Further, the right-sided input boxes on the screen are topped by a frame number, followed by an exhaust gas quantity, a safety check expiration date, a mileage, a sales point, a [photo input] button for inputting a car photo, an [inspection certificate input] button 40 for inputting the inspection certificate data, and a [registration] button 41 for registering in the used-car database the information input to the screen.

[0035]

Among those input boxes, an arbitrary comment of the car dealer may be input to the [sales point] box.

[0036]

When pressing the [photo input] button, there is displayed an unillustrated input box for inputting a name of an image file, or an unillustrated indication screen for indicating a take-in of

the image to a scanner 29 compatible with TWAIN (Technology Without Any Interested Name defined as a common interface specification for controlling the scanner, which is designed in cooperation by Hewlett-Packard Corp., U.S.A., Eastman Kodak Corp., U.S.A., Logitech Corp., U.S.A., Aldus Corp., U.S.A., and Caere Corp., U.S.A.)

[0037]

Note that the inspection certificate data among those input items is normally inputted by the special inspector, and may therefore not yet be inputted when making the registration.

10 [0038]

The dealers, if inspecting by themselves based on predetermined rules, select inputting the inspection certificate by pressing the [inspection certificate input] button 40 or submitting the inspection certificate by mail. In the case of the inputting, the inspection certificate is inputted as an image of the check record in the same way as by the [photo input] button.

[0039]

In the case of selecting the submission by mail, the member terminal 2 notifies the server 1 of this purport. In this case, a car management number is given when the registration is completed, and hence the inspection certificate with the number put on is mailed. Alternatively, a form for mailing the inspection certificate may be printed when the registration is completed.

[0040]

25 After inputting pieces of data to the respective input boxes, namely, the car information including the photo, and the inspection certificate data (in the case of the member's inputting by himself

or herself), on the screen in FIG. 4, when the [registration] button 41 is pressed by the pointing device 28, the pieces of car information are transmitted from the member terminal 2 to the server 1.

[Registration Process in Server 1]

5 The server 1 checks whether or not the information received contains the inspection certificate data. If the information received contains the inspection certificate data, the server 1 provides a car management number based on the predetermined rule.

[0041]

10 Further, the server 1 newly registers the car information in the search database and the inspection certificate data in the inspection certificate database. At this time, sets of data registered in the search database and in the inspection certificate database, are each given a car management number that will be used
15 as a search key when performing a search. Thereafter, the server 1 transmits pieces of data on a completion-of-registration screen in FIG. 5 to the member terminal 2. As shown in FIG. 5, on the completion-of-registration screen, a string of characters of [supreme car], a car photo and inspection certificate data are
20 displayed in the respective boxes for the sales point, the photo, and the inspection certificate.

[0042]

 If designated to submit the inspection certificate data by mail, the server 1 provides the car management number based on the
25 predetermined rule, and registers the transmitted car information in the wait-for-registration database. Thereafter, the server 1 transmits the data on the completion-of-registration screen shown

in FIG. 5 to the member terminal 2. At this time, however, a remark "not yet inputted" is displayed in the inspection certificate box.

[0043]

If the car information does not contain the inspection
5 certificate data, the server 1 provides the car management number
based on the predetermined rule, and registers the transmitted car
information in the wait-for-registration database. Thereafter, the
server 1 transmits the data on the completion-of-registration screen
shown in Fig. 5 to the member terminal 2. At this time, however,
10 a remark "not yet inputted" is displayed in the inspection certificate
box.

[Inspection Indication from Server 1]

The server 1, if the car information containing no inspection
certificate data is inputted, obtains an address of the registered
15 member from the member database and further obtains an inspector
residing in the vicinity of that address from the inspector database,
and notifies this inspector of the inspection indicative
information.

[0044]

20 This inspection indicative information contains the address
of the registered member, a name, the car information registered
in the wait-for-inspection database, and the car management number.
The notification of the inspection indicative information may take
some methods such as transmitting it via the network to a special
25 output device installed in an inspector office, or by E-mail or
by facsimile, or mailing it in a printed form. Pieces of destination
information of the inspector such as a mail address, a facsimile

number and an address necessary for those processes, are stored beforehand in the inspector database.

[Registration of Inspection Certificate]

5 The inspector, upon receiving the inspection indicative information, goes to where the car exists and checks it. The car is stored in the office where the inspector terminal 2a is installed. The inspector registers the inspection certificate recorded with a result of having inspected the car by use of the inspector terminal 2a.

10 [0045]

FIG. 6 shows a screen for registering the inspection certificate. When the inspector starts an inspection certificate registration program on the inspector terminal 2a and inputs a car management number of the car to be inspected, the inspector terminal 15 2a accesses the server 1, then reads the corresponding car information out of the wait-for-registration database, and displays the data in the respective boxes on the screen in FIG. 6.

[0046]

The inspector confirms from the display that the car inspected 20 is identified by the car information registered.

[0047]

An inspection record sheet is set in the scanner 29 connected to the inspector terminal 1a, and an [inspection certificate input] button 42 is pressed by the pointing device 28. Then, the scanner 25 29 functions, and images on the inspection record sheet are taken into the inspector terminal 2a. Thereafter, a [registration] button 43 is pressed, thereby transmitting the car management number and

the images on the inspection record sheet to the server 1.

[0048]

The server 1 transfers a record of the car information indicated by the received car management number to the search database from the wait-for-registration database. Further, the server 1 records the received inspection certificate data (the image data of the inspection record sheet) with the car management number in the inspection certificate database.

[Search and Online Dealing (on the Side of Member Terminal)]

10 FIG. 7 shows a purchase screen displayed when the member purchases a car. The screen is displayed, when starting the search program on the member terminal 2 and designating items to identify car information such as a maker, a name of the car, a price etc.. At this time, the member terminal 2 accesses the search database and the inspection certificate database of the server 1, and displays
15 the car information of the corresponding car in the respective boxes.

[0049]

When the member presses a [purchase] button 44 on this display screen, an unillustrated window for a purchaser to input a member
20 number thereof and a password for authentication, is displayed.

[0050]

Next, the member terminal 2 displays the car information and pieces of data such as a car dealing price, a land transportation cost etc. on an unillustrated screen, thus having these pieces of
25 data finally confirmed by the purchaser to buy the car.

[0051]

Moreover, the server 1, because of the memory 13 being stored

with a table of land transportation costs in which each cost is setc. orresponding to a delivery place and an arrival place, notifies the member terminal 2 of a land transportation cost.

[0052]

5 When getting a confirmation of the purchase on an unillustrated final confirmation screen, purchase information (containing a car management number and a purchaser member number) is transmitted to the server 1 from the member terminal 2.

[Search and Online Dealing (on the Side of Server)]

10 The server 1 refers to the search database with the car management number and obtains a seller number. Next, the server 1 refers to the member database and obtains pieces of information on the seller member and the purchaser member therefrom.

[0053]

15 Subsequently, the server 1 sends land transportation indicative information (containing the car management number, the car information recorded in the search database, and the information on the purchaser member) of the car concerned to the seller member.

[0054]

20 The sending of the land transportation indicative information may take some methods such as transmitting it via the network to a special output device installed in a member office, or by E-mail or by facsimile, or mailing it in a printed form.

[0055]

25 Next, the server 1 transfers the car information to the wait-for-settlement database from the search database.

[Settlement]

Depending on an option of the member, the settlement may be made between the members, or the management company may be commissioned to make the settlement, or an electronic settlement may be implemented by the server 1.

5 [0056]

If the management company is commissioned to make the settlement, after confirming a payment of the fee (transferred to a bank account designated) by the purchaser member, an indication of the land transportation is given.

10 [0057]

If the dealing is not established for some reason, for example, according to the operation rule such as "The dealing shall be unestablished in case no payment is implemented by 14:00 the day after the purchase indicated date" and so forth, the server 1 transfers the car information concerned to the search database from the wait-for-settlement database, and the car concerned is made open to the market.

[0058]

The land transportation company tied up with the management company is notified of the land transportation indicative information (containing the car management number, the car information recorded in the search database, the seller member information (delivery place), the purchaser member information (destination of the land transportation) etc.) in the same way as sending to the seller members.

<Function and Effects>

FIGS. 8 through 13 show the processes of the server program

executed by the CPU 12 of the server 1. The CPU 12, when the system is booted, executes this server program, thereby providing a function of the server 1.

[0059]

5 As shown in FIG. 8, normally the CPU 12 is in a standby state for a request given from the terminal device (from S1 to S2). If the request is given via the unillustrated network (Yes in S2), the CPU 12 determines a type of the request.

[0060]

10 To start with, the CPU 12 determines whether or not the request is a car registration request (S3). If the request is the car registration request, the CPU 12 executes a car registration process (S4). Thereafter, the CPU 12 sets the control back to the standby state for the request (S1).

15 [0061]

 If the request is not the car registration request, the CPU 12 determines whether or not the request is a wait-for-registration data transmission request (S5). If determined to be the wait-for-registration data transmission request, the CPU 12 executes
20 await-for-registration data transmission process (S6). Thereafter, the CPU 12 sets the control back to the standby state for the request (S1).

[0062]

 If the request is not the wait-for-registration data
25 transmission request, the CPU determines whether or not the request is an inspection certificate registration request (S7). If the request is the inspection certificate registration request, the

CPU 12 executes an inspection certificate registration process (S8) in the server 1. Thereafter, the CPU 12 again sets the control back to the standby state for the request (S1).

[0063]

5 If the request is not the inspection certificate registration request, the CPU 12 determines whether the request is a search request or not (S9). If determined to be the search, the CPU 12 executes a search process (S10). Thereafter, the CPU 12 returns the control to the standby state for the request (S1).

10 [0064]

 If the request is not the search, the CPU 12 determines whether or not the request is a password confirmation request (S11). If the request is the password confirmation request, the CPU 12 executes a password conformation process (S12). Thereafter, the CPU 12
15 returns again the control to the standby state for the request (S1).

[0065]

 If the request is not the password confirmation request, the CPU 12 determines whether or not the request is an ordering request (S13). If determined to be the ordering request, the CPU 12 executes
20 a sales process (S14). Thereafter, the CPU 12 sets again the control back to the standby state for the request (S1).

[0066]

 If the request is not the ordering request, the CPU 12 executes nothing and returns again the control to the standby state for the
25 request (S1).

[0067]

FIG. 9 shows details of the car registration process (S4 in

FIG. 8). At first, the CPU 12 receives the car registration data from the terminal device (S41).

[0068]

Next, the CPU 12 checks whether or not the received information
5 contains the inspection certificate data (S43).

[0069]

If the received information contains the inspection certificate data, the CPU provides a car management number according to the predetermined rule (S44).

10 [0070]

Next, the CPU 12 registers the car information in the search database (S45).

[0071]

Subsequently, the CPU 12 registers the inspection certificate
15 data in the inspection certificate database (S46). Next, the CPU 12 transmits the data on the completion-of-registration screen in FIG. 5 to the member terminal 2 (S47). Thereafter, the CPU 12 finishes the car registration process.

[0072]

20 On the other hand, if the received information does not contain the inspection certificate data, the server 1 provides the car management number in accordance with the predetermined rule (S48).

[0073]

Next, the CPU 12 registers the transmitted car information
25 in the wait-for-registration database (S49). Subsequently, the server 1 transmits the data on completion-of-registration screen in FIG. 5 to the member terminal 2 (S50). At this time, however,

a remark "not yet inputted" is displayed in the "inspection certificate" box.

[0074]

Subsequently, the CPU 12 obtains an address of the registered
5 member from the member database (S51).

[0075]

Next, the CPU 12 obtains the inspector residing in the vicinity
of that address from the inspector database (S52). Then, the CPU
12 sends the inspection indicative information to this inspector
10 (S53). Thereafter, the CPU 12 finishes the car registration process.

[0076]

FIG. 10 shows details of the wait-for-registration data
transmission process (S6 in FIG. 8). To begin with, the CPU 12
receives the car management number from the terminal device (S61).
15 Next, the CPU 12 searches the wait-for-registration database, and
transmits a piece of wait-for-registration data of that car
management number to the terminal device (S62). Thereafter, the
CPU 12 finishes the wait-for-registration data transmission process.

[0077]

FIG. 11 shows details of the inspection certificate data
20 registration process (S8 in FIG. 8) in the server 1. At first, the
CPU 12 receives the car management number and the inspection
certificate data from the terminal device (S81).

[0078]

25 Next, the CPU 12 transfers a record of the car information
indicated by the received car management number to the search database
from the wait-for-registration database (S82). Next, the CPU 12

records the received inspection certificate data (which are the image data on the inspection record sheet) with the car management number in the inspection certificate database. Thereafter, the CPU 12 comes to an end of the wait-for-registration data transmission process.

[0079]

FIG. 12 shows details of the search process (S10 in FIG. 8). At first, the CPU 12 receives search keys (a name, a type, a year model and an exhaust gas quantity, etc..) specified by the member from the terminal device (S101).

[0080]

Subsequently, the CPU 12 searches the car information from the search database (S102). At this time, the CPU 12 provides the car management number.

15 [0081]

Next, the CPU 12 searches the inspection certificate data from the inspection certificate database based on this car management number (S103).

[0082]

20 Then, the CPU 12 transmits the car information and the inspection certificate data to the terminal device (S104). Thereafter, the CPU 12 finishes the search process.

[0083]

FIG. 13 shows details of the sales process (S12 in FIG. 8). To start with, the CPU 12 receives the ordering information (containing a car management number of a car to be ordered, and a purchaser member number) from the terminal device (S141).

[0084]

Next, the CPU 12, based on the car management number, obtains the member number of the seller member from the search database. Then, the CPU 12, based on the member number of the seller member and the member number of the purchaser member, searches pieces of information (addresses and so forth) on the seller member and the purchaser member out of the member database (S142).

[0085]

Next, the CPU 12 sends the land transportation indicative information to the seller member (S143).

[0086]

Subsequently, the CPU 12 transfers the car information from the search database to the wait-for-settlement database (S143). Thereafter, the CPU 12 finishes the sales process.

15 [0087]

FIGS. 14 and 15 show processes of programs executed in the member terminal 2 etc.. A CPU 22 of the member terminal 2 executes these programs, thereby providing a function as the member terminal 2 etc..

20 [0088]

FIG. 14 shows an inspection certificate registration process in the inspector terminal 2a. In this process, the CPU 22 at first prompts the inspector to input a car management number and also the server 1 to search wait-for-registration data corresponding to the inputted car management number, and displays a searched result on the LCD 26 (S200). At this time, the inspector confirms the wait-for-registration car information.

[0089]

Next, the CPU 22 comes to a standby state for inputting the inspection certificate data (S201). When the inspector sets the inspection record sheet in the scanner 29 and presses the [inspection
5 certificate input] button 42, the CPU 22 detects an indication of the registration (Y in S202).

[0090]

Then, the CPU 22 waits for the [registration] button 43 to be pressed (S203). When the [registration] button 43 is pressed,
10 the CPU 22 transmits to the server 1 the inspection certificate data read from the scanner 29 (S204). Thereafter, the CPU 22 finishes the inspection certificate registration process.

[0091]

FIG. 15 shows a search/ordering process in the member terminal
15 2. In this process, the CPU 22 indicates the server 1 to search the car information based on the specified search conditions (the name, type, year model and exhaust gas quantity etc.. of the car), and displays the searched result on the LCD 26 (S209).

[0092]

20 If the member does not desire the purchase and gives an indication of end (Y in S210), the CPU 22 finishes the search/ordering process.

[0093]

If the member does not desire the purchase but desire the search
25 to be performed again (N in S211), the CPU 22 returns the control to the process in S209.

[0094]

When the member presses the [purchase] button 44 (Y in S211), the CPU 22 prompts the member to input a password, and inquires the server 1 about whether the password is identified by the member number or not (S212).

5 [0095]

If the password is authenticated, the CPU 22 gives a clear display of pieces of car information, a purchase price, a land transportation cost etc., and has these pieces of data confirmed finally (S214).

10 [0096]

If the final confirmation results in OK, the CPU 22 notifies the server 1 of a piece of information showing an intention of the purchase (S216). Thereafter, the CPU 22 finishes the search/ordering process.

15 [0097]

On the other hand, if the member does not consent in the final confirmation (N in S215), the CPU 22 returns the control to S209, and executes searching for a next set of car information.

[0098]

20 As discussed above, according to the present information system, the prospective buyer of the used-car is able to refer to the inspection information of the used-car concerned together with the car information on the specifications of the used-car searched from the database. Therefore, the present information system speeds up
25 a process that a prospective buyer of the used car determines an intention of purchasing it.

[0099]

Further, according to the present information processing system, the dealer is able to perform search while looking at the screen with the customer, and able to refer to the inspection information of the used-car concerned together with the car information. Therefore, an establishment of the dealing is speeded up. Further, it is feasible to reduce a period for the dealer to make the arrangements for the goods, whereby the demand of the customer can be quickly met.

<Modified Examples on Registration Screen>

10 In accordance with the embodiment discussed above, the inspection certificate data is inputted as the image on the inspection record sheet. The embodiment of the present invention is not, however, limited to the above input mode and display mode of the inspection certificate. For instance, the inspection certificate data may be
15 inputted as code data to input boxes provided for every check item of the check record, and the data may be recorded and displayed for every check item.

[0100]

Further, the embodiment of the present invention is not limited
20 to the input device and the input time of the inspection certificate data. For instance, the inspector may mail the inspection record sheet to the management company without using the inspector terminal 2a. The management company having received the inspection record sheet may register the inspection certificate in the same procedure
25 as in the case of mailing from the member.

[0101]

In the embodiment discussed above, the car information is

inputted from the registration screen of the member terminal 2. Instead of this input mode, a register sheet with entries of necessary items of car information which are made by the seller member, may be sent with a photo to the management company, and the input operations may be executed in the management company.

<Modifications of Structure of Database>

In the embodiment discussed above, the used-car database is structured of the three types of databases such as the wait-for-registration database, the search database and the wait-for-settlement database. The embodiment of the present invention is not, however, limited to this database architecture. For example, the data in those three types of databases may be recorded in a single used-car database, and each record may be provided with status flags such as a wait-for-registration flag, a search flag (being open on the market) and a wait-for-settlement flag (purchase reserved), thus managing the data.

[0102]

In the embodiment discussed above, when in the car registration process, the server 1 provides the car management number based on the predetermined rule. The embodiment of the present invention is not, however, confined to this procedure. What may be taken otherwise is, for example, not that the server 1 provides the car management number but that a frame number in the car registration data is used directly as a car management number.

<<Second Embodiment>>

A second embodiment of the present invention will hereinafter be described with reference to FIGS. 16 through 21. FIG. 16 is a

diagram showing a system architecture of the car dealing system in the second embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 17 is a table showing a data structure of a used-car database 52 shown in FIG. 16. FIG. 18 is a table showing a data structure of an exhibit information database 53 shown in FIG. 16. FIG. 19 shows an example of a display screen of a list of searched results displayed in a purchaser terminal 2c shown in FIG. 16. FIG. 20 is a diagram showing a purchase screen in the second embodiment. FIG. 21 shows an example of an exhibit information display screen.

[0103]

The first embodiment has exemplified the information processing system in which the member desiring to buy the used-car is able to refer to the inspection information of the used-car with the car information on the specifications of the used-car. The second embodiment will exemplify an information processing system for reproducing multimedia data of animated images formed by photographing the car and of a sound emitted when the car is driven, as well as the car information. Other configurations and functions of the second embodiment are the same as those in the first embodiment. Therefore, the same components are marked with the same numerals, and the repetitive explanations thereof are omitted. Further, FIGS. 1 through 15 are referred to as required.

<System Architecture>

FIG. 16 is a diagram showing a system architecture of the car dealing system in the second embodiment of the present invention. This system is also configured by connecting the server 1 installed in the management company for managing the data to the purchaser

terminal 2c via the network as in the first embodiment.

[0104]

The server 1 in this embodiment includes a WWW server 50 for providing web pages to the network, a common gateway interface (which
5 will hereinafter be abbreviated to CGI 51) for providing the display data to the WWW server 50, a used-car information database 52 for storing the used-car information, and an exhibit information database 53 for storing exhibit information.

[0105]

10 The WWW server 50 provides the web page in response to a request given from the network on the basis of HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol).

[0106]

The CGI 50 receives a command from the WWW server 50 and executes
15 a process of searching the database.

[0107]

The used-car information database 52 records the car information containing a name, a type and a year model etc. of the car. The exhibit information database 53 records the car exhibit
20 information containing the animated images and sounds.

[0108]

The purchaser terminal 2c includes a WWW browser (hereinafter simply referred to as the browser) 54, and issues a request to the WWW server 50, whereby a web page is displayed. Hardware
25 architectures of the server 1 and of the purchaser terminal 2c are respectively the same as those of the server 1 and the member terminal 2 of the first embodiment, and hence their repetitive explanations

are omitted.

<Data Structure>

FIG. 17 shows a data structure of records stored in the used-car information database 52. Data in one line in FIG. 17 correspond to a record of the used-car information database 52. This record corresponds to a single car and consists of data in fields such as a car management number, a name of maker, a type, a name of car, a year model and a price.

[0109]

Among these pieces of data, the car management number is a numeral used as a unique key for identifying the car in the server 1 to. The car management number, as in the case described in the first embodiment, may be given by the server 1. Alternatively, a car frame number may also be used just directly as the car management number.

[0110]

FIG. 18 shows a data structure of records stored in the exhibit information database 53. Data in one line in FIG. 18 correspond to a record in the exhibit information database 53. This record consists of multimedia data about an external configuration, components etc. of one single car. This record includes fields such as a car management number, an exhibition data number, an explanation, a data format and a pointer to exhibit information.

[0111]

The car management number is, as in the case shown in FIG. 17, a numeral used as a unique key for identifying the car in a server 11. Further, the exhibition data number is a number for

identifying the exhibit information of one single car.

[0112]

The "explanation" field is stored with text information for explaining the exhibit information relating to the record concerned.

5 The text information may be itemized into, e.g., [external configuration], [door opening/closing conditions], [sound of engine], [coating surface], [traveling condition], [engine room] etc. The "explanation" field has a fixed length, and hence NULL data is padded in a margin.

10 [0113]

The "data format" field is recorded with a data category of the exhibit information relating to the record concerned. The data categories are, for example, MPEG, MP3 and so forth.

[0114]

15 The "pointer-to-exhibit information" field is stored with an address on the hard disk where a substance of the exhibit information concerned exists. The CGI 50 accesses the exhibit information indirectly via the pointer to the exhibit information.

[0115]

20 In the exhibit information database 53, the number of records of the single car is not limited and may be set arbitrary. Further, the items of the exhibit information of the single car are not limited to [external configuration], [door opening/closing conditions], [sound of engine] etc., and an arbitrary combination thereof may
25 be admitted.

<Functions>

The prospective buyer inputs an URL (Uniform Resource Locator)

to the browser, and accesses a search service of the server 1. The user specifies desired search conditions such as a name of maker, a name of car, a type, a year model an exhaust gas quantity etc., and requests the WWW server 50 to perform search. The WWW server
5 50 accesses the database via the CGI 50. As a consequence, a list of the searched results is displayed on the browser.

[0116]

FIG. 19 shows a screen for displaying the list of the searched results. On this screen, a hyperlink is set to each car management
10 number. For instance, when clicking 100001, a purchase screen is displayed through communications with the server 1 and through a process by the CGI 50.

[0117]

FIG. 20 shows an example of the purchase screen. This purchase
15 screen is substantially the same as the purchase screen in the first embodiment except for a [-> see more details] button 54. When the prospective buyer of the car presses the [-> see more details] button 54 by the pointing device 28, command information for displaying the exhibit information identified by the car management number
20 "100001", is transmitted to the CGI 50 of the server 1.

[0118]

The CGI 50 extracts data related to the car management number "100001" from the exhibit information database, then structures HTML configuring the exhibit information display screen, and sends
25 the structured HTML back to the browser.

[0119]

FIG. 21 shows an example of the exhibit information display

Extensions) content back to the browser.

[0123]

MIME is known as a standard method of coding the binary data, and therefore its explanation is omitted. Further, environment for reproducing MPEG data, MP3 data and other multimedia data on the browser is nowadays well prepared, and hence explanations of mechanisms thereof are omitted.

[0124]

The prospective buyer having confirmed the exhibit information and determined the intention of purchasing presses the [purchase] button 44 on the purchase screen shown in FIG. 20 by use of the pointing device 28. As a result, the operation enters a step of a purchase process via an authentication process about the member information etc. as in the case of the first embodiment.

[0125]

As discussed above, according to the present information processing system, the external configuration and the respective components of the used-car are displayed by using the animated images, so that it is possible to express changes in a color, a luster and a reflection caused by movement of the camera. Further, it is by far easier to grasp the conditions of the car than by using the still image data with a high resolution. Therefore, the present car dealing system speeds up the process that the prospective buyer determines the intention of buying the used-car.

[0126]

Moreover, the requirement of the high resolution is comparatively small, and hence there is a smaller communication

load than in the prior art owing to advancements of the motion picture compression technology.

<Modified Examples>

In the embodiments discussed above, the record in the exhibit
5 information database 53 contains the pointer to the exhibit
information, so as to access the image data and voice data indirectly.
The embodiment of the present invention is not, however, confined
to the record structure described above. For instance, as a
substitute for the pointer to the exhibit information, the exhibit
10 information, i.e., the image data and the voice data may be directly
recorded in the record of the exhibit information database 53. In
this case, however, it is desirable that the exhibit information
be set to a fixed length in order to facilitate accessing.

[0127]

15 In this embodiment, as in the first embodiment, the inspection
certificate is displayed on the purchase screen as shown in FIG.
20. The embodiment of the present invention is not, however, limited
to this display mode.

[0128]

20 Namely, apart from the inspection certificate, an effect
yielded by a combination of pieces of exhibit information containing
the car information, the animated image data and the voice data
described in this embodiment, speeds up the process that the
prospective buyer determines the intention of purchasing the
25 used-car. As a matter of course, the architecture in this embodiment
may be combined with the architecture in the first embodiment.

[0129]

[Effects of the Invention]

As described above, according to the present invention, it is feasible to speed up the process that the prospective buyer of the used car determines the intention of purchasing it.

5 [Brief Description of the Drawings]

[FIG. 1] A diagram showing a system architecture of a car sale information providing system in a first embodiment of the present invention.

[FIG. 2] A diagram showing a hardware architecture of a server
10 1.

[FIG. 3] A diagram showing a hardware architecture of a terminal device 2.

[FIG. 4] A diagram showing a registration screen.

[FIG. 5] A diagram showing a completion-of-registration screen.

15 [FIG. 6] A diagram showing an inspection certificate registration screen.

[FIG. 7] A diagram showing a purchase screen in the first embodiment.

[FIG. 8] A flowchart showing processes of a server program.

20 [FIG. 9] A flowchart showing a car registration process of the server 1.

[FIG. 10] A flowchart showing a wait-for-registration data transmission process of the server 1.

[FIG. 11] A flowchart showing an inspection certificate
25 registration process of the server 1.

[FIG. 12] A flowchart showing a search process of the server 1.

[FIG. 13] A flowchart showing a sales process of the server 1.

[FIG. 14] A flowchart showing an inspection certificate registration process of the terminal device 2.

[FIG. 15] A flowchart showing a search/ordering process of the terminal device 2.

5 [FIG. 16] A diagram showing a system architecture of a car dealing system in a second embodiment of the present invention.

[FIG. 17] A chart showing a data structure of a used-car database.

[FIG. 18] A chart showing a data structure of an exhibit information database.

10 [FIG. 19] A diagram showing an example of a display screen for a list of searched results.

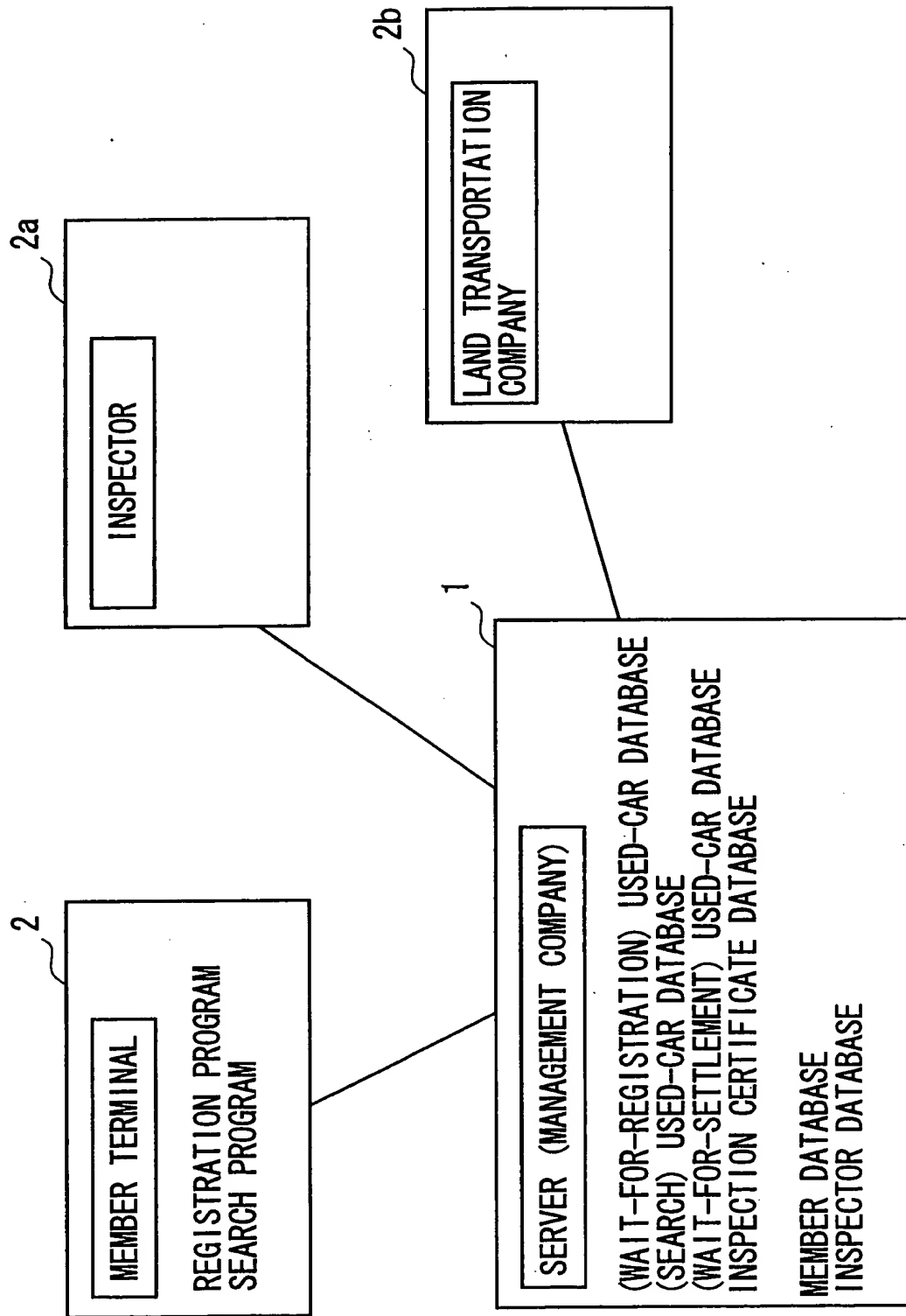
[FIG. 20] A diagram showing a purchase screen in the first embodiment.

[FIG. 21] A diagram showing an example of an exhibit information display screen.

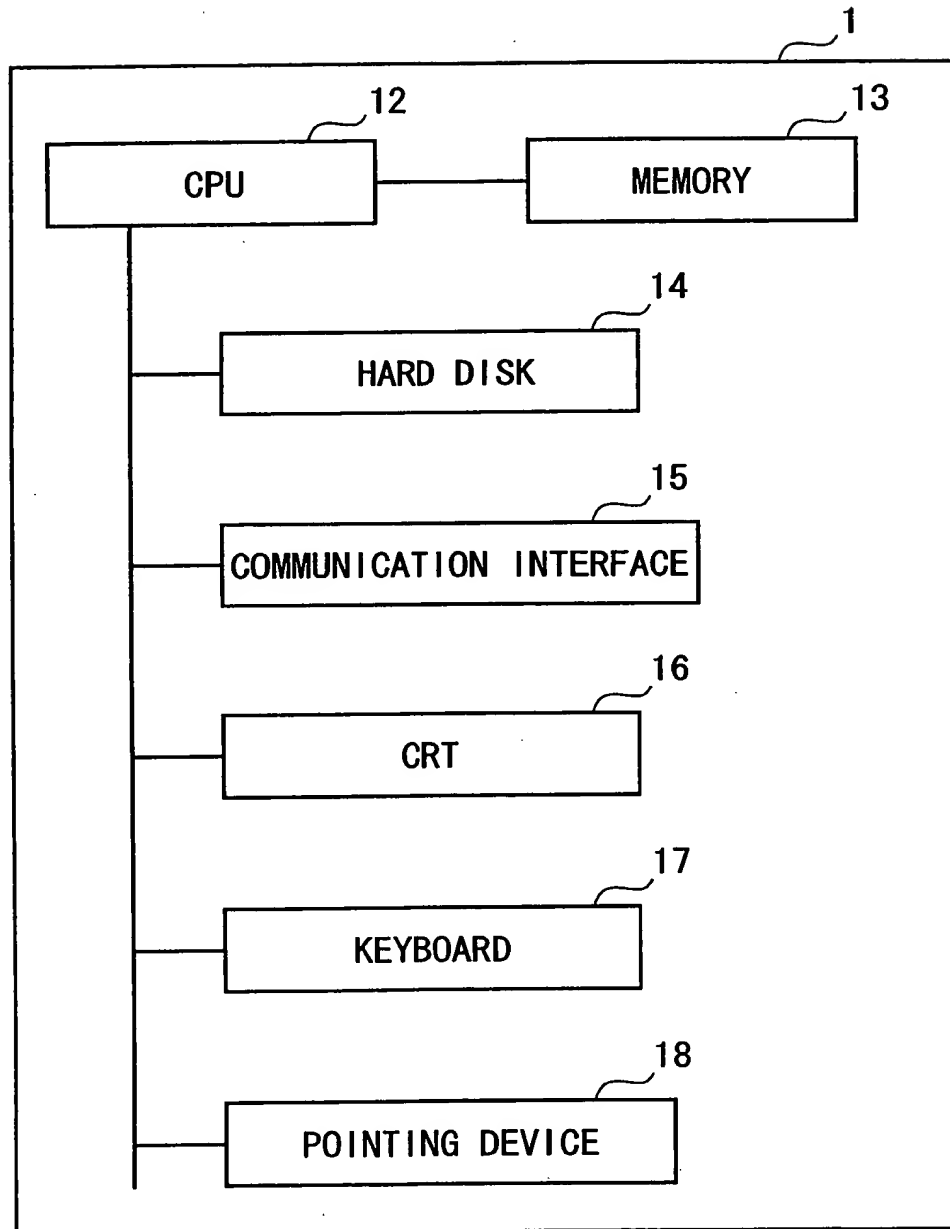
[Description of the Reference Numerals]

1	server
2	member terminal
2a	inspector terminal
20 2b	land transportation company terminal
2c	purchaser terminal
12, 22	CPU
13, 23	memory
14, 24	hard disk
25 15, 25	communication interface
16	CRT
17, 27	keyboard

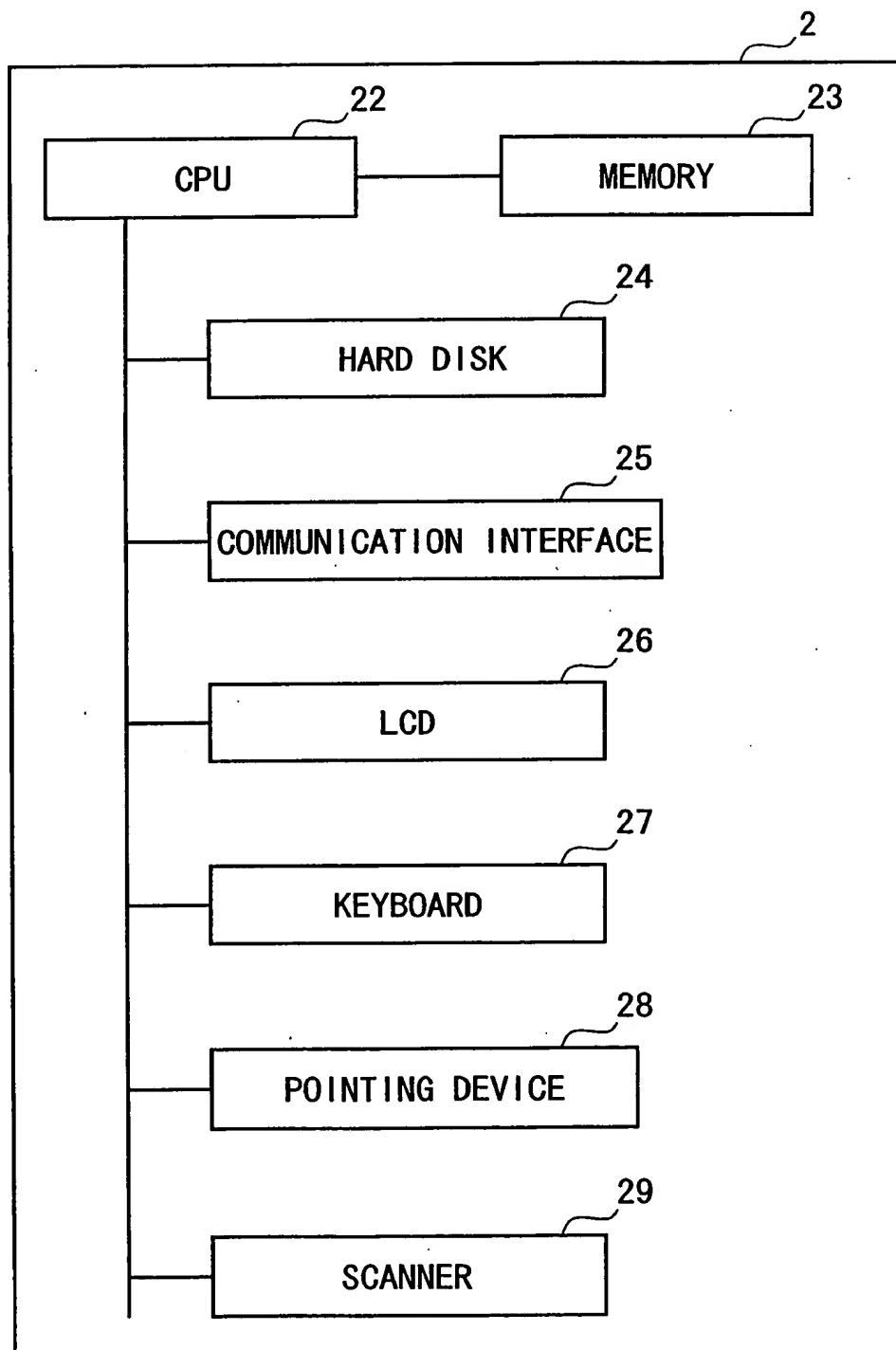
	18, 28	pointing device
	27	LCD
	29	scanner
	40, 42	"inspection certificate input" button
5	41, 43	"registration" button
	44	"purchase" button
	50	used-car information database
	51	common gateway interface
	52	WWW server
10	53	WWW browser
	54	[-> see more details] button
	55	exhibit content selection box
	56	image display box



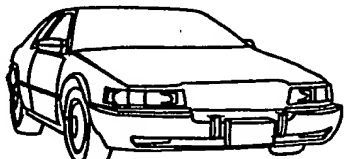
[FIG. 2]



[FIG. 3]



[FIG. 4]

MEMBER NUMBER	003497	AUTOMOBILE SHOP○○○○○	
MAKER	○○○	FRAME NUMBER	00123456
TYPE	E-JZZ31	DISPLACEMENT	3000cc
NAME OF CAR	○○○	SAFETY CHECK EXPIRATION DATE	AUGUST, 2000
GRADE	GT	MILEAGE	30,000km
SHAPE	2CP		
APPLICATION	FOR PRIVATE USE		
EXTERIOR COATING COLOR	BLUE	SALES POINT	
COLOR NO.	8J5	SUPREME CAR	
INTERIOR COATING COLOR	GRAY		
FUEL	GASOLINE	PHOTO INPUT	
GEAR SHIFT	FA		
COOLING SYSTEM	AAC		
EQUIPMENT	PS PW AW DP		
POSSIBLE-DELIVERY DATE	IMMEDIATE TIME		
SALES PRICE (UNIT : TEN THOUSANDS)	135		
		40	41
		INSPECTION CERTIFICATE INPUT	REGISTRATION

[FIG. 5]

REGISTERED WITH CAR MANAGEMENT NUMBER "5001234" .
PRINT AND STORE DATA ON SCREEN

PRINT

SALES DEALER
NUMBER

003497

AUTOMOBILE SHOP○○○○○

MAKER

○○○

FRAME NUMBER

00123456

TYPE

E-JZZ31

DISPLACEMENT

3000cc

NAME OF CAR

○○○

SAFETY CHECK
EXPIRATION DATE

AUGUST, 2000

GRADE

GT

MILEAGE

30, 000km

SHAPE

2CP

APPLICATION

FOR PRIVATE USE

SALES POINT

SUPREME CAR

EXTERIOR COATING
COLOR

BLUE

COLOR NO.

8J5

INTERIOR COATING
COLOR

GRAY

FUEL

GASOLINE

GEAR SHIFT

FA

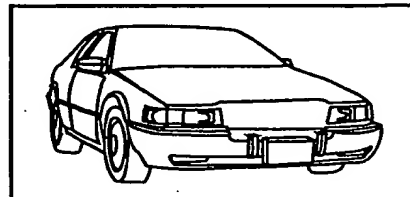
COOLING SYSTEM

AAC

EQUIPMENT

PS PW AW DP

PHOTO



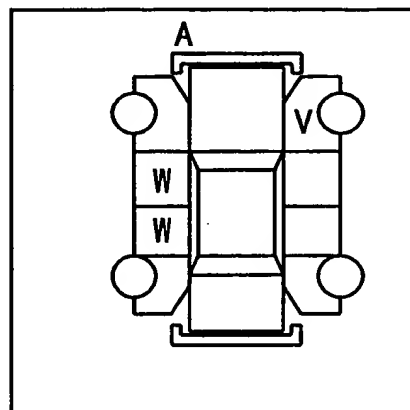
POSSIBLE-DELIVERY
DATE

IMMEDIATE TIME

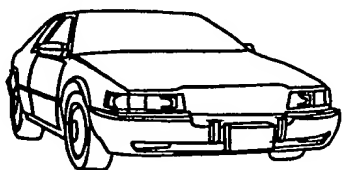
SALES PRICE (UNIT
: TEN THOUSANDS)

135

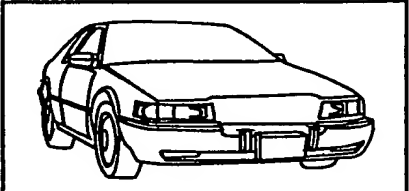
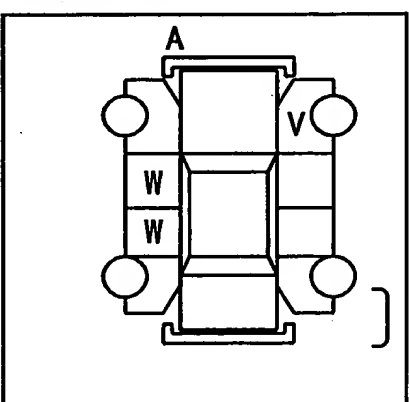
INSPECTION CERTIFICATE



[FIG. 6]

INSPECTOR NUMBER	0060	TARO—	
CAR MANAGEMENT NUMBER	5001234	CHECK DATE	
MEMBER NUMBER	003497	AUTOMOBILE SHOP ○○○○	
MAKER	○○○	FRAME NUMBER	00123456
TYPE	E-JZZ31	DISPLACEMENT	3000cc
NAME OF CAR	○○○	SAFETY CHECK EXPIRATION DATE	AUGUST, 2000
GRADE	GT	MILEAGE	30,000km
SHAPE	2CP		
APPLICATION	FOR PRIVATE USE		
EXTERIOR COATING COLOR	BLUE	SALES POINT	
COLOR NO.	8J5	SUPREME CAR	
INTERIOR COATING COLOR	GRAY		
FUEL	GASOLINE	PHOTO INPUT	
GEAR SHIFT	FA		
COOLING SYSTEM	AAC		
EQUIPMENT	PS PW AW DP		
POSSIBLE-DELIVERY DATE	IMMEDIATE TIME		
SALES PRICE (UNIT : TEN THOUSANDS)	135	42 INSPECTION CERTIFICATE INPUT	43 REGISTRATION

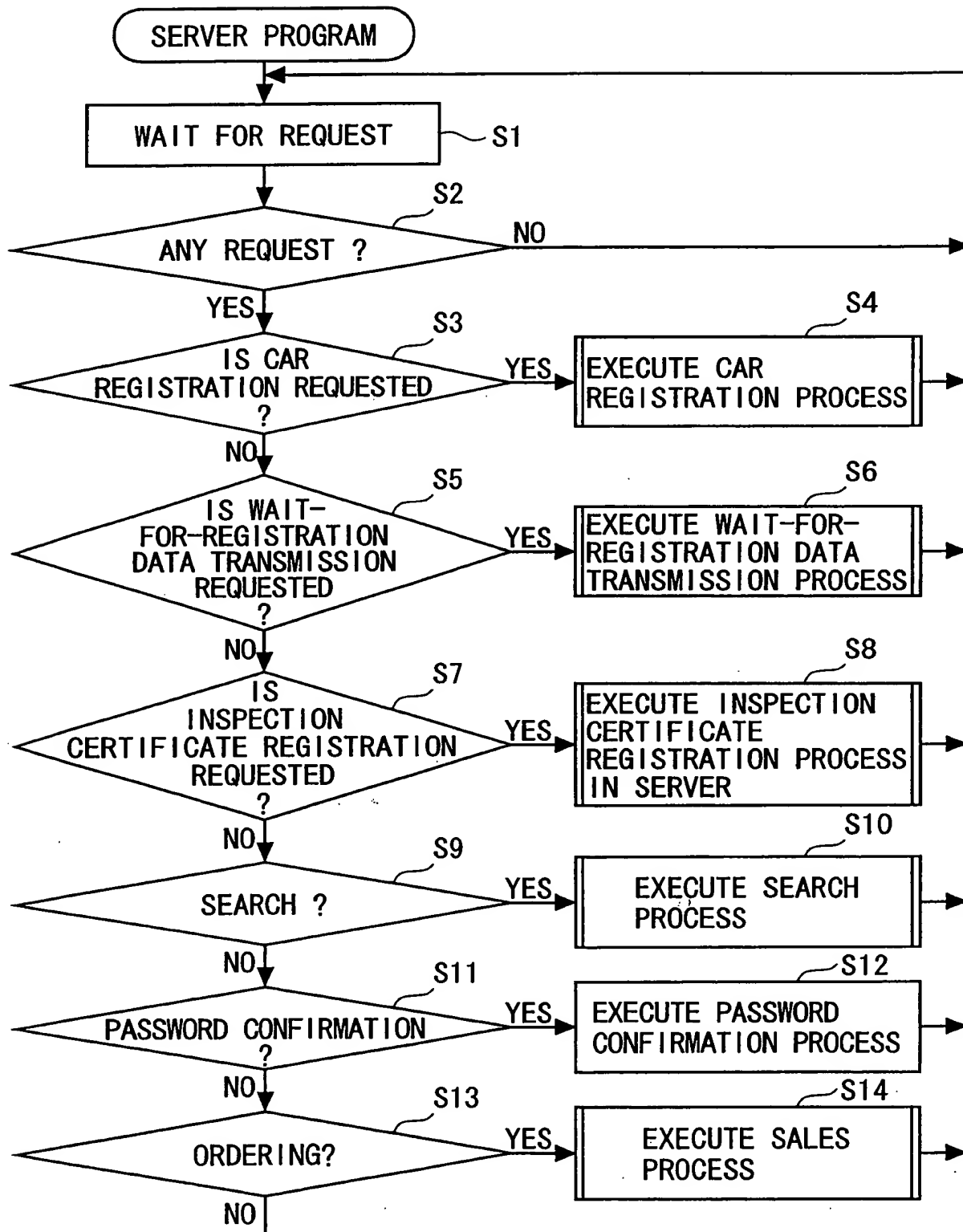
[FIG. 7]

SALES MEMBER NUMBER	003497	AUTOMOBILE SHOP	OOOO
MAKER	OOO	SALES POINT	SUPREME CAR
TYPE	E-JZZ31		
NAME OF CAR	OOO		
GRADE	GT		
SHAPE	2CP		
APPLICATION	FOR PRIVATE USE		
EXTERIOR COATING COLOR	BLUE		
COLOR NO.	8J5		
INTERIOR COATING COLOR	GRAY		
FRAME NUMBER	00123456	INSPECTION CERTIFICATE	
DISPLACEMENT	3000cc		
SAFETY CHECK EXPIRATION DATE	AUGUST, 2000		
MILEAGE	30,000km		
FUEL	GASOLINE		
GEAR SHIFT	FA		
COOLING SYSTEM	AAC		
EQUIPMENT	PS PW AW DP		
POSSIBLE-DELIVERY DATE	IMMEDIATE TIME		
SALES PRICE (UNIT : TEN THOUSANDS)	140		

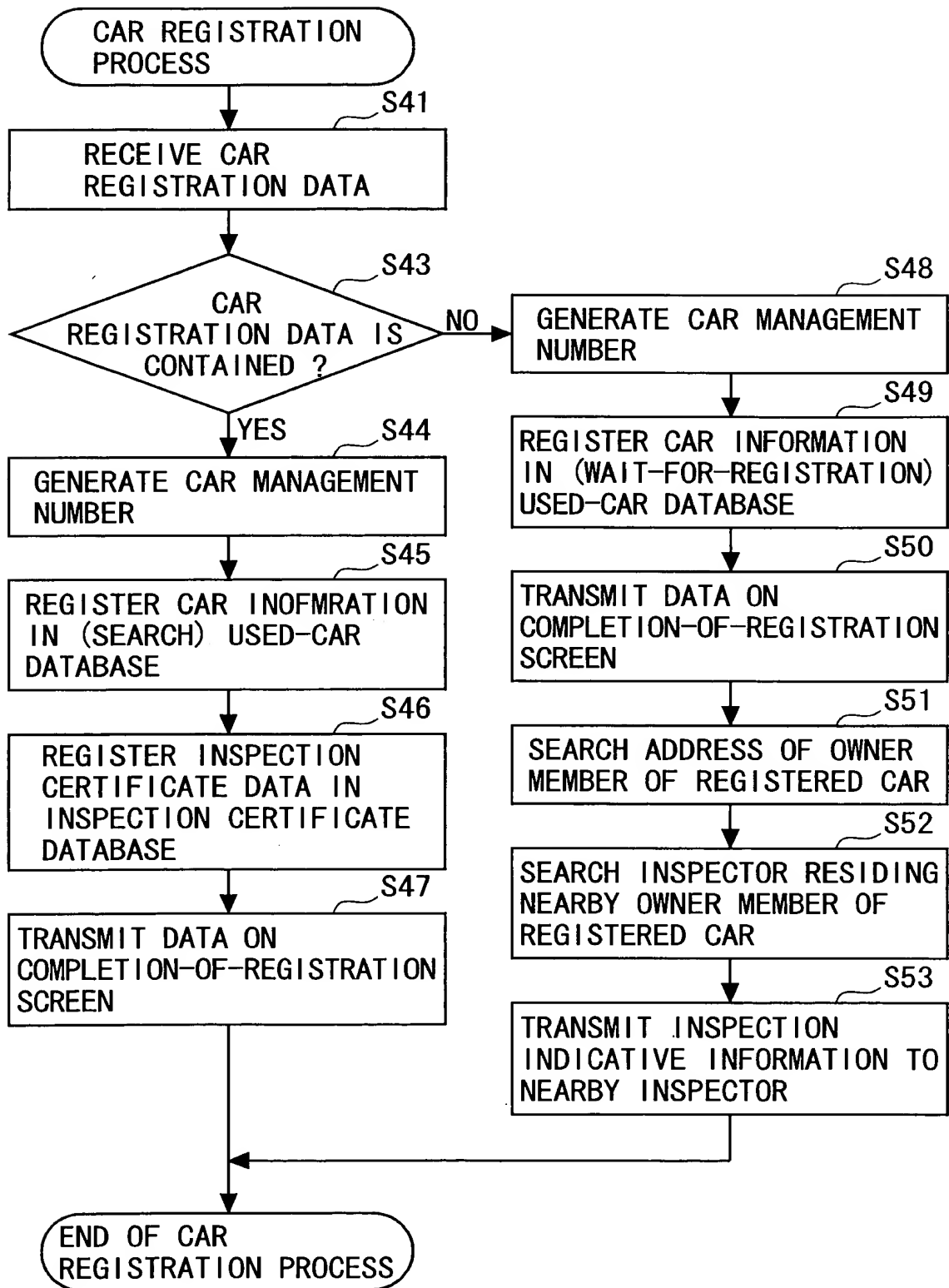
44

PURCHASE

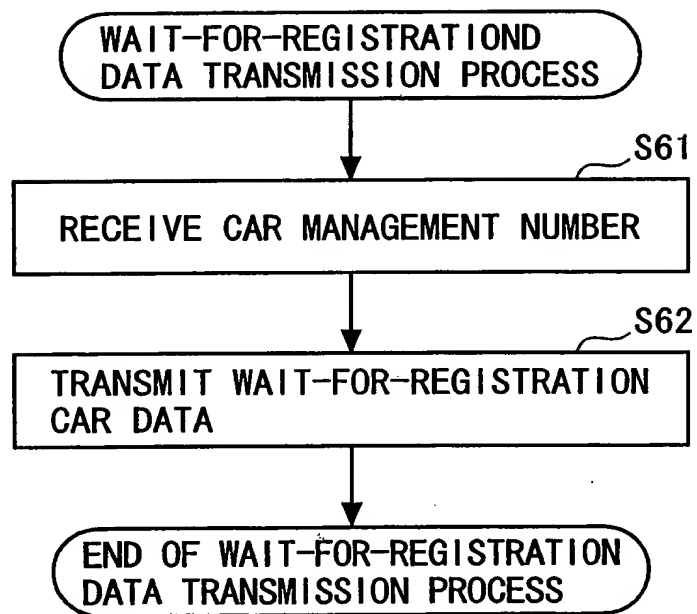
[FIG. 8]



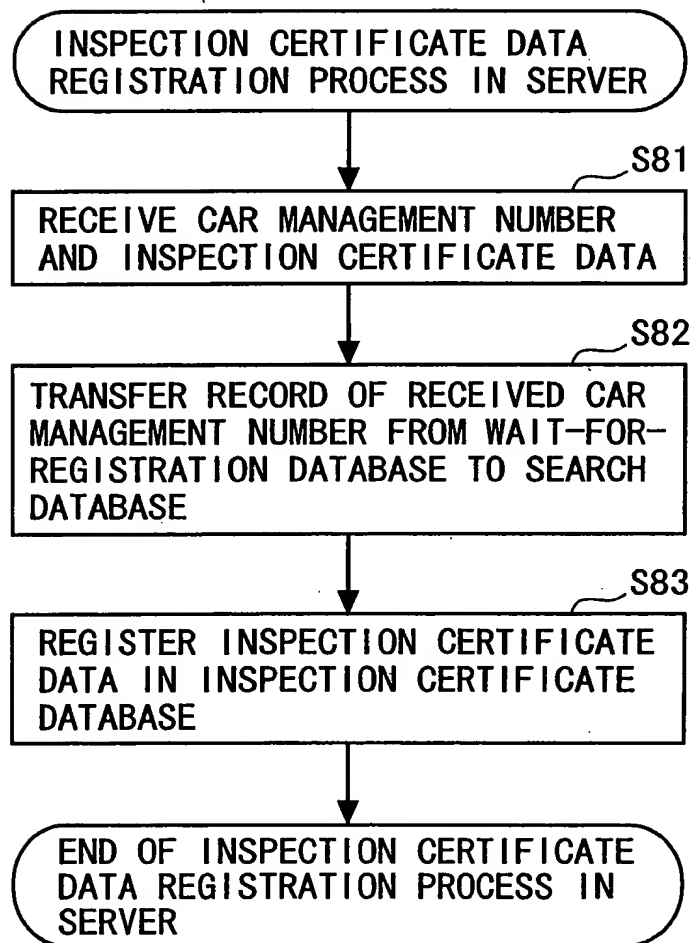
[FIG.9]



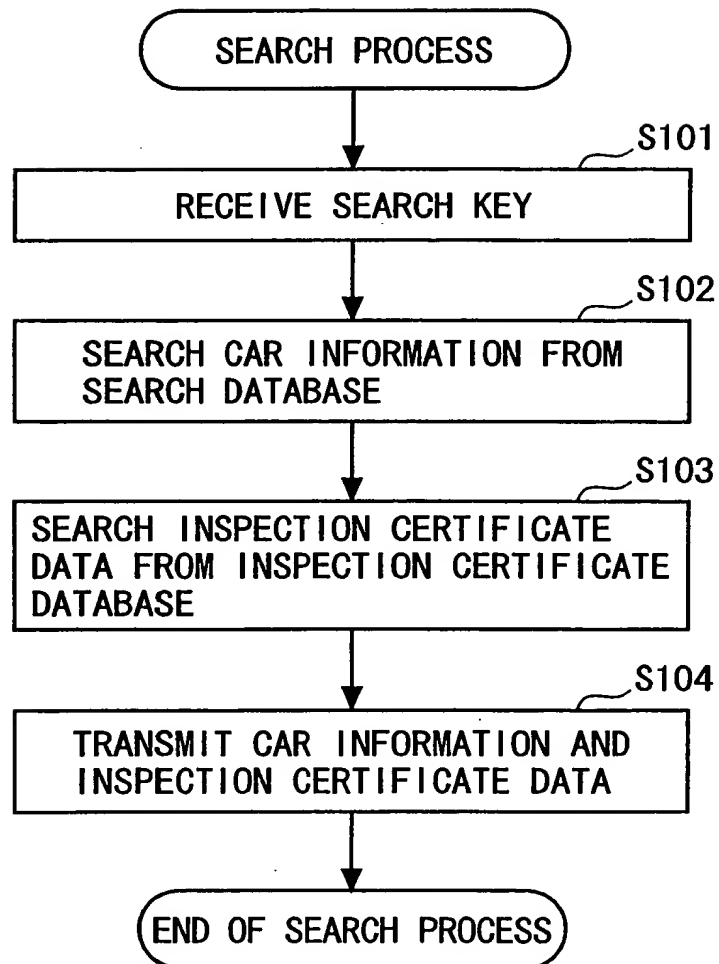
[FIG. 10]



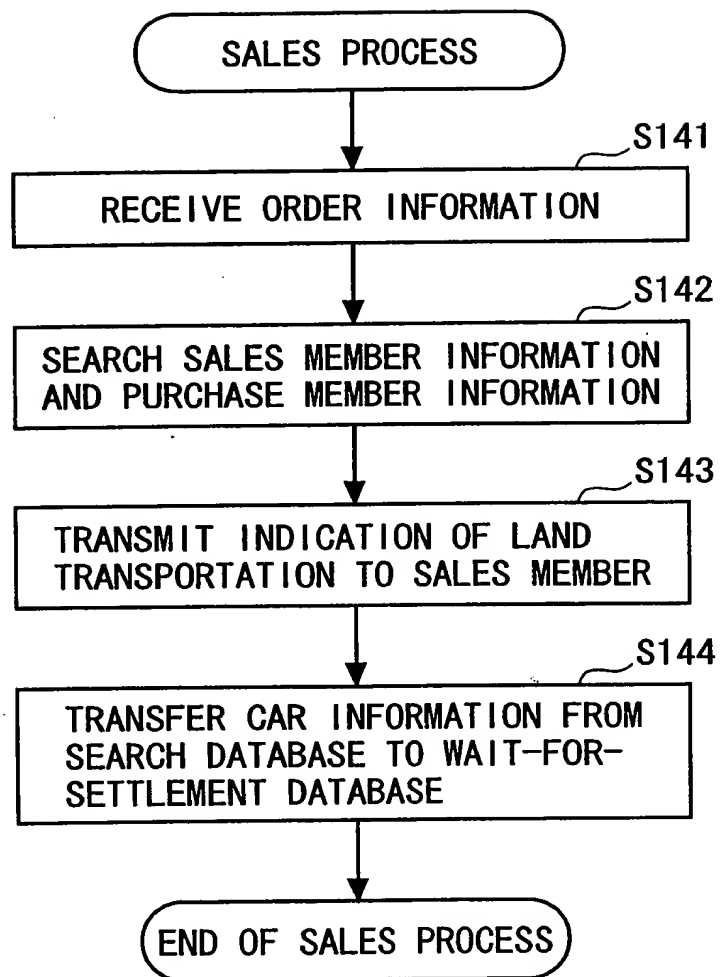
[FIG. 11]



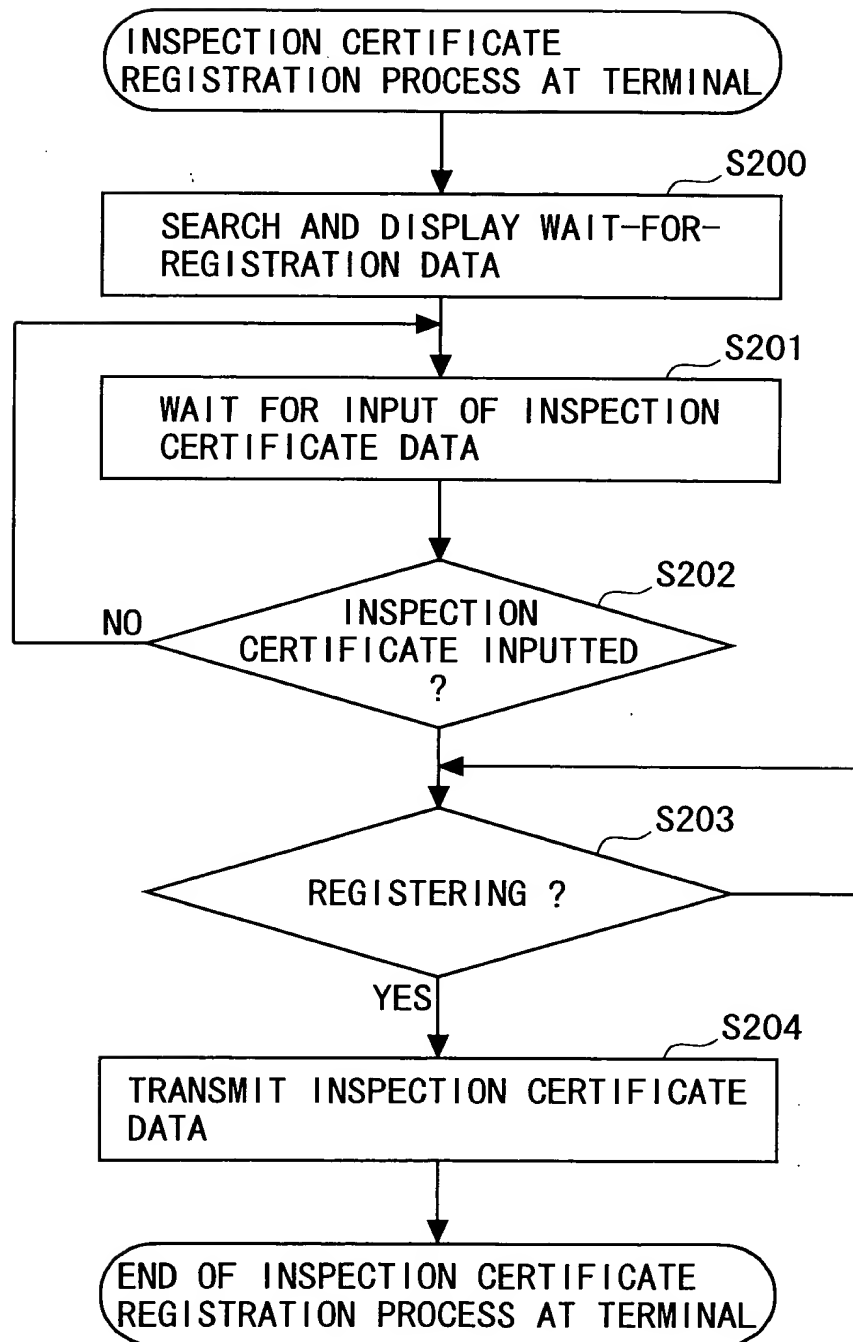
[FIG. 12]



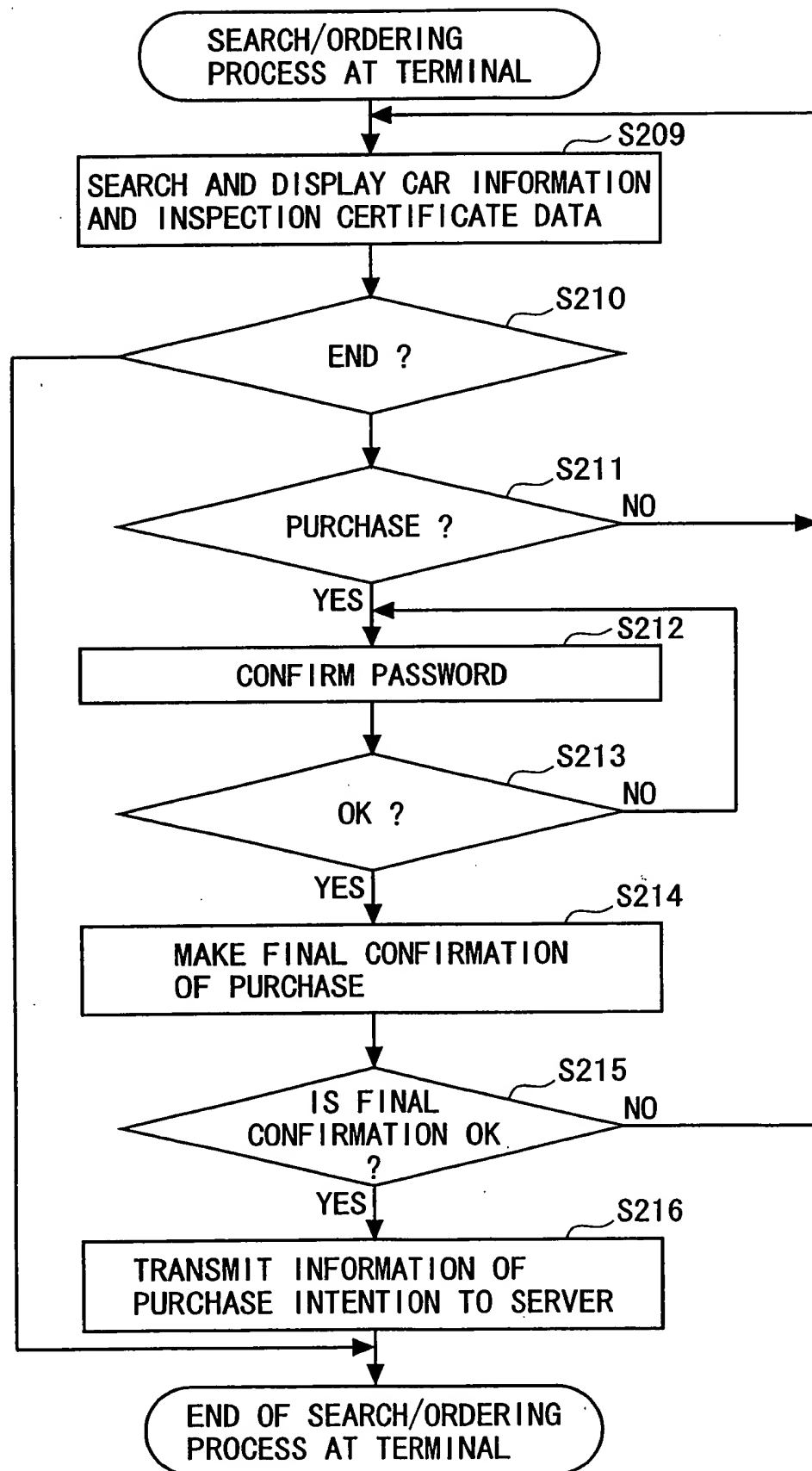
[FIG. 13]



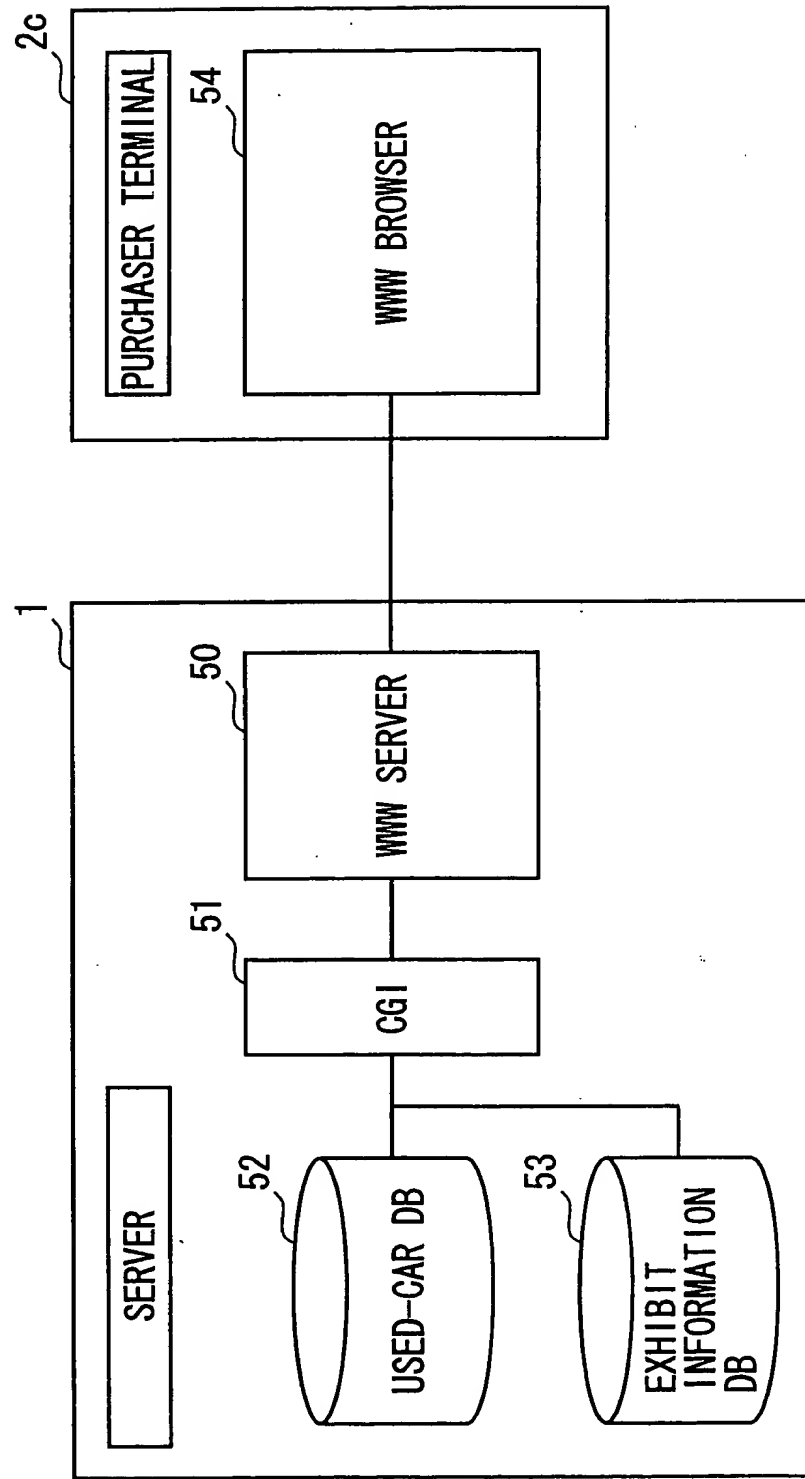
[FIG.14]



[FIG. 15]



[FIG. 16]



[FIG. 17]

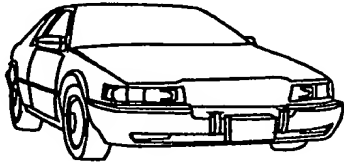
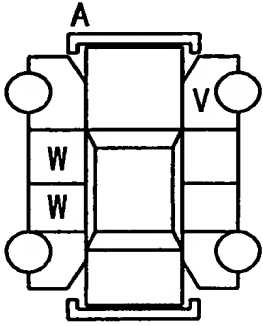
52 USED-CAR INFORMATION DATABASE

CAR MANAGEMENT NUMBER	MAKER	TYPE	NAME OF CAR	YEAR MODEL	PRICE	-----
100001	TY	E-JZZ31	OOO	H09-10	180	-----
100002	HN	DDDD	CR	H08-06	80	-----
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

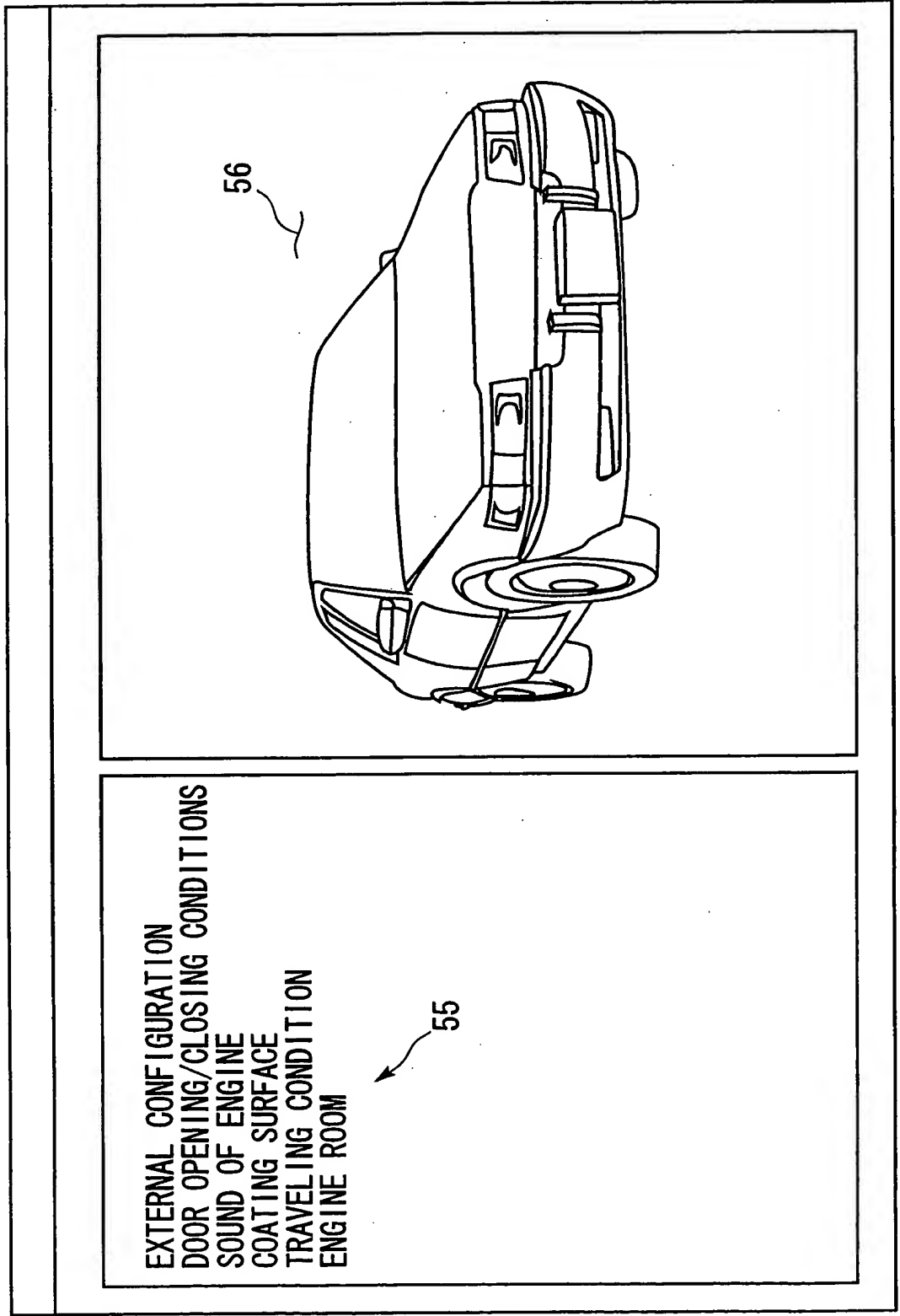
53 EXHIBIT INFORMATION DATABASE

CAR MANAGEMENT NUMBER	EXHIBIT DATA NUMBER	EXPLANATIONS	DATA FORMAT	POINTER TO EXHIBIT INFORMATION
100001	1	EXTERNAL CONFIGURATION	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100001	2	DOOR OPENING/CLOSING CONDITIONS	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100001	3	SOUND OF ENGINE	MP3	T0 (MP3 FORMATTED SOUND DATA)
100001	4	COATING SURFACE	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100001	5	TRAVELING CONDITION	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100001	6	ENGINE ROOM	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100002	1	EXTERNAL CONFIGURATION	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100002	2	DOOR OPENING/CLOSING CONDITIONS	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100003	3	SOUND OF ENGINE	MP3	T0 (MP3 FORMATTED SOUND DATA)
100004	4	COATING SURFACE	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100005	5	TRAVELING CONDITION	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
100006	6	ENGINE ROOM	MPEG	T0 (MPEG FORMATTED IMAGE DATA)
::	::	::	::	::

[FIG. 20]

CAR MANAGMENT NUMBER	100001	SALES POINT SUPREME CAR
MAKER	○○○	
TYPE	E-JZZ31	
NAME OF CAR	○○○	
GRADE	GT	
SHAPE	2CP	
APPLICATION	FOR PRIVATE USE	
EXTERIOR COATING COLOR	BLUE	
COLOR NO.	8J5	
INTERIOR COATING COLOR	GRAY	54 → MORE DETAILS
FRAME NUMBER	00123456	
DISPLACEMENT	3000cc	INSPECTION CERTIFICATE
SAFETY CHECK EXPIRATION DATE	AUGUST, 2000	
MILEAGE	30,000km	
FUEL	GASOLINE	
GEAR SHIFT	FA	
COOLING SYSTEM	AAC	
EQUIPMENT	PS PW AW DP	
POSSIBLE-DELIVERY DATE	IMMEDIATE TIME	
SALES PRICE (UNIT : TEN THOUSANDS)	180	44 PURCHASE

[FIG. 21]



[Name of Document] ABSTRACT

[Abstract]

[Object]

5 The present invention is to provide an information processing technology for speeding up a process that a prospective buyer of a used car determines an intention of purchasing the car.

[Solving Means]

 The present invention is a car sale information providing system comprising:

10 car information storage means (13, 14) for storing car information containing a name, a type, a year model etc. of a car and car inspection information obtained as a result of inspecting the car concerned in a corresponding relationship;

15 car information input means (27, 28) for inputting the car information to be stored in the car information storage means (13, 14);

 search means (12) for outputting an input screen for searching the car information stored in the car information storage means (13, 14), and for searching based on conditions inputted; and

20 car information output means (26) for outputting display information, including a purchase indication interface 44 for transmitting car purchase information containing the searched car information and the car inspection information corresponding thereto.

25 [Selected Drawing] FIG. 1